

REMARKS

Claims 1-35 were pending in the present application. Claims 10, 15, 16, 21, 22, 27, and 28 were cancelled. Claims 1, 11, 17, 23, 30, 32, 34, and 35 were amended. Accordingly, claims 1-9, 11-14, 17-20, 23-26, and 29-35 are now pending in the present application.

The Examiner has objected to claims 10, 11, 22, 28, 30, and 31 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The Applicant has amended claim 1 to include limitations similar to the limitations recited in claim 10. Applicant has also rewritten claim 11 into independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicant has also amended claim 17 to include limitations similar to the limitations recited in claims 21 and 22. Applicant has also amended claim 23 to include limitations similar to the limitations recited in claims 27 and 28. Applicant has also rewritten claim 30 into independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Lastly, Applicant has amended claims 34 and 35 to include limitations similar to the limitations recited in original claim 30. Accordingly, Applicant believes that claims 1, 11, 17, 23, 30, 32, 34, and 35, along with their respective dependent claims, patentably distinguish over the cited art.

Claims 1-9, 12, 13, 15-18, 21, 23, 24, 27, 29, and 32-35 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Suzuki. Although Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection, Applicant has amended the claims to expedite allowance and believes the rejection to now be moot.

Claims 14, 19, 20, 25, and 26 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Suzuki. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection. Although

Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection, Applicant has amended the claims to expedite allowance and believes the rejection to now be moot.

CONCLUSION

Applicant submits the application is in condition for allowance, and an early notice to that effect is requested.

If any fees are due, the Commissioner is authorized to charge said fees to Meyertons, Hood, Kivlin, Kowert, & Goetzel, P.C. Deposit Account No. 501505/5681-53600/SJC.

Respectfully submitted,



Stephen J. Curran
Reg. No. 50,664
AGENT FOR APPLICANT(S)

Meyertons, Hood, Kivlin, Kowert, & Goetzel, P.C.
P.O. Box 398
Austin, TX 78767-0398
Phone: (512) 853-8800

Date: December 22, 2004